

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 241008Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9060

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL PHNOM PENH 1465

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CB ID

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ANWAR SANI

1. SUMMARY. INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN ANSAR SANI, IN PHNOM PENH VISIT, OUTLINED HIS GOVERNMENT'S PREOCCUPATION WITH KHMER QUESTION. FONMIN MALIK WILL DISCUSS IT SOON WITH BOUTEFLIKA AND SAUVAGNARGUES, AND SANI WILL LATER COME TO WASHINTON FOR DISCUSSIONS IN DEPARTMENT. I CAUTIONED HIM AGAINST ANY INDONESIAN INITIATIVES PRIOR TO CONSULTATION IN WASHINTON. HE AGREED. END SUMMARY.

2. INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN, ANWAR SANI, PAID A TWO-DAY VISIT TO PHNOM PENH, JAN. 22-24. HE WAS WELL FETED BY THE KHMERS, WITH A CALL ON THE MARSHAL, A LUNCHEON WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, AND A DINNER GIVEN BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER WHICH INCLUDEJPPRINCIPAL MEMBER UOF THE DIP CORPS.

3. IN CALL ON ME TODAY, JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, HE SAID HE HAD BEEN SUMMONED HOME TO JAKARTA FOR CONSULTATIONS, PRINCIPALLY ON THE KHMER QUESTION, AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT FOR THE NEXT UNGA. THERE HAD THEN BEEN A CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING IN MANILA, CHAIRED BY FONIMIN MALIK, AND HE HAD HAD OTHER CONVERSATIONS ON SAME SUBJECT WITH THAI AND PHILLIPPINE FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE

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NEXT STAGE WAS FOR SANI TO MEET MALIK IN PARIS AFTER

LATTER HAD ATTENDED THE OPEC CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS WHERE HE WILL DISCUSS CAMBODIA WITH BOUTEFLIKA. MALIK AND SANI WILL THEN HAVE SIMILAR CONVERSATIONS IN PARIS WITH SAUVAGNARGUES. FOLLOWING THAT SANI EXPECTED TO GO TO WASHINGTON FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON CONCLUSIONS REACHED AND TO SAMPLE THE DEPARTMENT'S THINKING AT THAT TIME.

4. SANI SAID THE INDONESIANS WERE CONVINCED THE UN VICTORY OF 1974 COULD NOT BE REPEATED AGAIN UNLESS ONE OF TWO THINGS OCCURRED TO IMPROVE DRASTICALLY GKR WORLD IMAGE: EITHER MARKED PROGRESS ON MILITARY FRONT OR THE BEGINNING OF SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS. IN RESPECT TO THE 1974 EFFORT, HE PAID TRIBUTE TO THE US CONTRIBUTION WHICH, IN HIS OPINION, WAS CLEARLY WHAT TURNED THE TIDE. NEVERTHELESS, HE DID NOT THINK THE VICTORY COULD BE REPEATED. FRANKLY, THE INDONESIANS WERE AT A LOSS AS TO JUST WHAT COURSE OF ACTION TO TAKE OR TO SUGGEST. HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE REALISTIC ATTITUDE OF LONG BORET AND OTHER LEADING KHMERS, AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE MAJOR CONCESSIONS TO OBTAIN A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. HE WAS LESS SANGUINE ABOUT THE ATTRACTION TO THE OTHER SIDE OF ANYTHING SHORT OF MILITARY VICTORY AT THIS TIME.

5. IN REPLY TO DIRECT QUESTION ABOUT LON NOL'S FUTURE, I NOTED THAT KHMER PRESIDENT HAD REPEATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT KHMERS ARE NOT FIGHTING FOR ONE PERSON OR ANY GROUP OF PEOPLE BUT MERELY FOR THE SURVIVAL OF CERTAIN BASIC VALUES. I OPINED THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS LON NOL'S MANNER OF SAYING THAT HE WOULD NOT STAND IN WAY OF A POLITICAL SOLUTION.

6. I EXPLAINED VERY CAREFULLY TO HIM THAT I COULD IN NO WAY SPEAK FOR MY GOVERNMENT IN THE MATTER OF NEGOTIATIONS. I SAID THAT IN MY OPINION HE AND FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK WERE GOING ABOUT THE QUESTION IN THE RIGHT WAY AT THIS STAGE, IN SEEKING TO GATHER INFORMATION AND THE VIEWS OF OTHERS. I SAID THAT I BELIEVED IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT NO ACTIVE STEPS OR INITIATIVES BE TAKEN UNTIL HIS GOVERNMENT HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH OFFICIALS AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL IN THE DEPARTMENT. HE RESPONDED VERY QUICKLY EXPRESSING THE STRONG CONVICTION THAT HIS GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT UNDERTAKE ANY COURSE OF ACTION WITHOUT CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE USG, WHOSE ROLE HAD, AFTER ALL, BEEN CRUCIAL IN LAST YEAR'S UN EFFORT.

DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM01465
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750027-0359
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750123/aaaaatsq.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ANWAR SANI
TAGS: PFOR, CB, ID, UN, (SANI, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006